

#17C  
3-23-01

169.0568

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

TIMOTHY MERRICK LONG, ET AL.

Application No.: 08/903,743

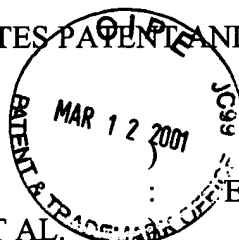
Filed: July 31, 1997

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Examiner: C. Paula

Group Art Unit: 2776

March 12, 2001



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Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, a CPA having been filed herewith, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1, 16, 27, and 29 as follows. A marked-up copy of Claims 1, 16, 27, and 29 showing the changes made thereto, is attached. Note that all the claims currently pending in this application, including those not presently being amended, have been reproduced below for the Examiner's convenience.

03/14/2001 CCHAU1 00000127 08903743

03 FC:103 306.00 OP  
04 FC:102 320.00 OP